

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for June 20, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Top of the Bay price increase

Effective July 1, Top of the Bay will redesign their lunch program. The sandwich and salad bar will remain the same. The hot buffet will become self-serve and will include a side salad, fruit punch or iced tea, rolls and butter and will cost \$7.95 per person. Carry out buffets will cost \$8.25 per person.

WIC clinic meets weekly

The Army Community Service, in conjunction with the Harford County Health Department, operates a Women, Infants and Children Clinic every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in building 2754. Eligible mothers and children can receive health screenings by a registered nurse, formula and food vouchers, nutrition counseling, breast feeding instruction and more. For more information, call Diana Hayes, Parents and Children Together coordinator, 410-278-4372.

Dining facilities hold 232nd Army Birthday Specialty Meal June 14

The U.S. Army Birthday Specialty Meal will be held in the APG North dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the APG South dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m., tonight. During this event all military personnel, Family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The holiday meal rate of \$6.05 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and Family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$5.15 applies to spouses and other Family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through

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ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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Capt. George Hollenbaugh, a firefighter from Fire and Emergency Services, right, watches as Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, puts out a grease fire as part of a fire prevention display at the 2005 Community Awareness Day. The staff of Fire and Emergency Services constructed the static display of a bedroom and kitchen as a training tool to show community members fire hazards and how fast a fire can spread. This device along with many others contributed to the fire department winning a Department of the Army Fire and Emergency Services award as 2006 Fire Prevention Program of the Year.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON, left; photo by ANDRÉ FOURNIER, DSHE, right

APG Fire, Emergency Services earns DA award

Recognized as Fire Prevention Program of the Year

Story by
HEATHER TASSMER
 APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services Division, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, has been recognized by the Department of the Army with a Fire Prevention Program of the Year Award for 2006.

The staff has been committed to inspection, code

compliance enforcement and community education programs, said Ed Budnick, chief of the APG Fire Department.

"This award is a great recognition for our department," Budnick said. "Our staff spends a lot of time on fire prevention efforts such as holding special programs and interacting with tenant organizations. These guys have set the bar high and have done a lot of things to make a good program."

Tim McNamara, deputy to the garrison commander, had the chance to witness the staff's efforts while he worked as the director of DSHE.

"I'm extremely proud of the members of our department, and hope they are equally proud of winning the Army award," McNamara said. "Most people don't realize the breadth of issues nor the extent of effort involved in fire prevention," he said. "It's wide-ranging,

encompassing everything from proper building design, to life safety code, to public education and outreach. APG has a tremendous program, and it's obvious that our well-being is their business.

"As their former director, and knowing the members of the APG Fire and Emergency Services Division as I do, I'm not surprised that the Department of the Army has recognized their achieve-

ments," he said.

The whole department is responsible for fire prevention efforts especially the Fire Prevention Division staff comprised of André Fournier, fire prevention specialist; Barry Bennett, fire protection specialist; and fire inspectors Doug Farrington, T.C. Glassman, Tom Stanford and Chris Starling.

The fire department's efforts

See AWARD, page 14

Chemical Battalion (TE) command sergeant major assumes APG Garrison responsibility

Story by
JONI PLATT
 22d Chemical Battalion (Tech Escort)

In a change of responsibility ceremony last month, one command sergeant major moved on to take on the tasks of the Aberdeen Proving Ground garrison command sergeant major while his replacement took on his predecessor's challenge of continued excellence.

Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez relinquished his duty as command sergeant major of the 22d Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort) to Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Parker.

Parker, a Baltimore native, graduated from Annapolis High School in 1978 and enlisted in the Army in 1979. His previous duty assignment was as the Command Sergeant Major, 84th Chemical Battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

During the ceremony, Parker praised the Soldiers and civilians and thanked them for their dedication and hard work.

"I'm committed to maintaining the tradition of excellence and continuing with the great job done by my predecessors. New missions will continue to arise and give way to new challenges. I'm ready for the challenge," Parker said.

Parker holds a bachelor's in business management.

He's married to the former Traci Matthews of Delaware. They have one son and four daughters.

In a token of appreciation for his service, Rodriguez was presented with an award and a plaque from the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) staff.

The wives of both the outgoing and incoming command sergeants major were also presented with bouquets as a symbol of honor, welcome and appreciation.

The outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez was selected to become the APG Garrison command

See 22d CHEM BN, page 8



Photo by AMBER SOWARDS, DATA IMAGING TEAM
 Lt. Col. Patrick Terrell, left, commander of the 22d Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort), passes the noncommissioned officers sword to Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Parker, delegating authority and entrusting him with the responsibility and care of the unit.

APG co-hosts first Armed Forces Day Run since 9-11 with Charm City Run

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
 APG News

More than 1,200 service members, civilians and seniors turned out for what some are calling the largest Armed Forces Day Run ever held on Aberdeen Proving Ground May 19.

The APG Community Recreation Division Sports Branch co-hosted the event with Charm City Run of Bel Air, a running specialty retail and events management company. Sponsors included the Army Substance Abuse Program, which purchased T-shirts for all the active duty participants. In addition, there was a DJ, and plenty of fresh fruit, bottled water and other snacks waiting for the returning runners.

Participants included the entire Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, led by Col. Bobby A Towery, commander, 61st Ordnance Brigade.

"It's important to do something on Armed Forces Day to remind Soldiers that this is their day," Towery said. "I was real happy to learn they decided to have this run. It's a great way to spend Armed Forces Day."

Commemorative plaques went to the run's top finishers. First place went to Joel Gladfelter, a 27 year-old civilian from Linthicum who also ran in the Boston Marathon in April. Gladfelter finished with

a time of 37 minutes, 8 seconds. Mike Feinberg a civilian employee with the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center came in second with a time of 37 minutes, 13 seconds and the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment's Pfc. Andrew Lund came in third at 37 minutes, 14 seconds.

Gladfelter credited Feinberg and Lund with pushing him to beat his best time for a 10K run by 22 seconds.

"Give all [credit] to these guys," he said. "They got me fired up."

The first female finisher was Mary Beth Cochran of Bel Air at 41 minutes, 34 seconds.

"I just came out to support the event," Cochran said.

Jose Larson, a staff sergeant with OC&S, came in fourth at 40 minutes, 21 seconds and Kellie McArdle, a second lieutenant with Company E, 16th Ordnance Battalion, came in second to Cochran at 43 minutes, 27 seconds.

Most runners said they felt good about participating in APG's first run since 9-11.

"It's good for morale," said drill sergeant Thomas Schmidt, Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion. "When I was in school, it was always classes or details. This gets them away from school and teaches them how to pull together."

Pvt. Seneca Lopez, Company C, 143rd, said he might not have finished if not for his battle buddies.

"I definitely thought this [the run] brought us closer together," he said.

"It's all about being good battle buddies," added Pvt. Nicholas Crochiere. "If he has to do it then you have to do it too if only to help your buddy out."

Josh Levinson, owner of Charm City Run, said that it was "nice to be back on APG." "We got with Chris Lockhart [MWR marketing director] proposing a run on Armed Forces Day," Levinson said.

"We just thought this was a good way to say thank you to our military."

With the largest turnout ever, Levinson said he hopes they can return for another run next year.

"It really went great," added Kelly Dees, Charm City Run event management. "It was a much larger turnout than expected but we felt it was important to come out and do this for them."

Ralph Cuomo, MWR Sports director, thanked Towery and the OC&S for "superb support" as well as Charm City Run, ASAP, the MWR staff and other sponsors.

"This was wonderful," Cuomo said, noting that Charm City provided all the food and bottled water and "went out and got additional sponsors from local Harford County businesses."

"The event was a huge success," he said, "and I think it really meant a lot to our service members, which is what this was really all about."

Route 24 entrance closing delayed

DLES

The state of Maryland has delayed bridge repair on Route 24 in APG South until June 18. Repair on Route 24 is scheduled to be completed in the latter part of August. The work will require the closure of the Route 24 Gate effective 5 a.m., June 17. Visitors and commercial vehicles must use the Magnolia Gate.

The Magnolia Gate (Route 152) will be operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Due to the configuration of that gate area, traffic patterns will be different than the Route 24 Gate. In order to support visitor and commercial vehicle traffic, the Magnolia Gate will be designated for inbound traffic only from 6 to 9 a.m. each workday, similar to current Route 24 Gate daily operations.

The Wise Road Gate (Route 755) will remain the same and will be restricted to government ID holders only. Wise Road Gate hours are 4 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday and closed on Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays.

Motorist safety is paramount, as is driver awareness to the difference in gate configuration. The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security urges motorists to be attentive to the voice and signal directions of police officers at the Magnolia Gate. Motorists are reminded to remain alert, flexible and patient to the changes in traffic patterns.

Watch card



Army announces greatest Army inventions for 2006

RDECOM

The commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, the U.S. Army Vice Chief of Staff and other senior Army science and technology leaders recognized the U.S. Army's "Top Ten Greatest Inventions of 2006" in an awards ceremony June 12 at the Hyatt Crystal

City, Arlington, Va.

The Army-wide awards program is dedicated to recognizing the best technology solutions for the Soldier.

Nominations for the program were submitted from across the Army laboratory community.

The Army -- from active duty divisions to the Training and Doctrine Command to the Army's vice chief of staff -- chose the 10 winning programs based upon their impact on Army capabilities (breadth of use and magnitude of improvement over existing systems), inventiveness and potential bene-

fit outside the Army.

Like previous years, there are no differentiating categories so that a variety of inventions could be recognized.

Each of the 10 selected teams received an award; the other nominated team members received certificates of participation.

The U.S. Army Greatest Inventions Program selections

U.S. Army Research Laboratory

Blow Torch Counter Improvised Explosive Device System

The vehicle-mounted blow torch system was designed to prematurely detonate explosives at operational speeds. Detonating the charge at a safe stand-off distance causes minimal damage to vehicles and, more importantly, Soldiers. The Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Office and the Rapid Equipping Force fielded several blow torch systems to deployed forces.



M1114 HMMWV Interim Fragment Kit 5

The Interim Fragment Kit 5 was fielded as an expedient ballistic improvement for the M1114 HMMWV in April 2006. A prototype door solution with fabrication and mounting instructions was provided within one week with automotive testing and safety certification following shortly after. As the M1114 Fragment Kit 5 (Objective) was not due for fielding until fall 2006, product engineering of the interim door design was quickly completed and put into CONUS production with the first door kits delivered in one month.



Constant Hawk

Constant Hawk is a surveillance capability that leverages an electro-optic payload to collect intelligence over areas of interest. This capability offers a unique combination of coverage and high spatial resolution required to detect and characterize events of interest along with their relevant tactical context. Typically, a Constant Hawk system maintains surveillance for a period of time while building a history of activity. The Constant Hawk forensic intelligence product is used to ascertain information on the enemy and identify areas that require increased surveillance by other assets.



OmniSense Unattended Ground Sensor System

OmniSense is a Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT) unattended ground sensor system used for the autonomous detection and classification of personnel and vehicles, in perimeter defense or border monitoring applications.

The capability is a combat multiplier valued by commanders when deployed to reduce force protection issues related to physical monitoring of key targets and infrastructure.



U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center

Integrated Robotic Explosive Detection System

Mobile and rugged to traverse difficult terrain, the Integrated Robotic Explosive Detection System incorporates an explosive trace detector onto a robotic platform, mitigating the inherent risk to Soldiers. The robot gathers the pertinent data and provides the user with a visual display of the results. Less time is required to place the sensor in a position for inspection. The robot is highly maneuverable, allowing the system operator to remain in a protected position.



High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle Crew Extraction D-ring

Combat locks on the up-armored HMMWV M1114 provide security for the occupants during enemy attempted forced entry during convoy operations. The addition of the Crew Extraction D-rings provide solid anchor points for the hooks of a tow strap, chain or cable. This allows a rescue vehicle to be used to pull damaged doors open and provides safe egress from the HMMWV.



U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center

Plastic Shaped Charge Assembly for Remote Destruction of Buried IEDs

The Plastic Shaped Charge Assembly is a hand-packed shaped charge loaded by the user in the field. Remotely emplaced, the PSCA destroys known or suspected unexploded ordnance with much higher precision than similar devices currently in use for this purpose. Due to a low fragmentation plastic housing, there is virtually no collateral damage, making it ideally suited for use in urban terrain.



EM113A2 Rapid Entry Vehicle

The EM113A2 Rapid Entry Vehicle is a modified Canadian M113A2 Bulldozer Armored Personnel Carrier that is lightly armored, full-tracked and air transportable. The REV provides rapid entry, non-lethal crowd control, and rescue squad insertion capabilities into the center of scenarios requiring non-lethal intervention. Use of the vehicle increases Soldier survivability through improved situational awareness and the ability to move and fire from within an armored vehicle.



U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center

Remote Urban Monitoring System

Remote Urban Monitoring System hardware combines emerging technologies in Wireless Local Area Network technology, night vision cameras, and Unattended Ground Sensors to eliminate false alarms. Tripped sensors transmit an alarm signal to the camera module and the operator, after video and audio from multiple camera modules, confirms the UGS alarm signal. In calendar year 2006, RUMS hardware was fielded to Soldiers via the RDECOM FAST office and to the U.S. Marine Corps via the Technology Support Working Group.



U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center

BuckEye System

The BuckEye LIDAR/Electro-Optic sensor system collects geospatial data over a commander's area of interest. The data is then quickly available to Soldiers at every level. To address the need to get newly acquired imagery and data into the hands of operational units, the BuckEye team used creative programming to extend and combine previous technologies into integrated technical enhancements. The BuckEye system has proven invaluable for a key requirement of tactical combat operations -- to better understand urban terrain.



APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, Building 2201, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit

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21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor@apg.army.mil.

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APG’s new chaplain committed to serving Soldiers, their Families’ spiritual needs



Garrison Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ruben Colon gives the invocation for Aberdeen Proving Ground’s Memorial Day ceremony May 28.

Story and photo by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

A third-generation clergyman continued his spiritual journey at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Chapel after assuming the position as Garrison and installation chaplain April 23.

Lt. Col. Ruben Colon said he has enjoyed his time so far on APG and describes it as a friendly place.

“This is a community with lots of great people,” Colon

said. “It’s great to be a part of an organization that works hard to support the mission of our men and women in uniform during this time of war, and APG seems to be accomplishing that on par with other installations.”

He described his first impressions of the APG chapel as “heartwarming” and said he is pleased with the dedicated staff.

“I work with a staff of great professional noncommissioned

officers and civilians who work hard during the week to pull together events and activities to support the spiritual needs of all our folks in this community,” he said. “It is a model on how best to provide the spiritual needs of those serving our nation.”

He said his goals are to have APG community members “identify chapel programming as a place where they can be refreshed spiritually through worship, prayer, study, counseling or just silent meditation...where anyone of religious persuasion can find some sense of peace and tranquility.”

He encourages everyone to stop by the chapel and inquire how they can get involved.

Colon’s dedication to religious services comes from his family’s involvement in church life.

He said his grandfather was a pastor in the mission fields after World War I and his father was a pastor for 50 years with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and with the New York City Police Department.

Colon, who was born and raised in the Bronx, said he found his spiritual calling to the military after a heartfelt visit from his brother.

He said he was serving as a pastor in New York when his brother, Levi, who he had not seen in years, came to

visit him after training with Marines killed in the Beirut, Lebanon, bombing of 1983.

“He was crushed by the loss of some friends. He explained how important and critical it was that a chaplain had helped him find some peace in understanding the loss of friends that died that day,” Colon said.

After encouragement from his Family, he entered military service in 1983.

“The opportunity to serve my nation, while being there for our Soldiers and their Families, is what attracted me to the Army chaplaincy,” he said. “Most of our Soldiers remind me of the those inner city youngsters I grew up with, and I’d like to think I can make a difference in their lives, but lately I’ve discovered, I have learned more from them.”

Colon served most of his military career between Forts Bragg and Benning. He also served in Italy, Germany and Korea. He traveled throughout Central and South America in assistance visits to many Latin American militaries interested in developing a chaplain’s corps using the U.S. Chaplaincy as a model.

He supported the mission during the first Gulf War, and served as the task force chaplain in Somalia and Bosnia. Colon was been heavily involved in the recent deployments of Sol-

diers and chaplains to Iraq and Afghanistan since 9-11.

In addition to his dedication in the Army, Colon is a Yale graduate and an ordained minister of the Evangelical

Lutheran Church in America.

In his spare time, Colon said he likes to read, write, play golf and sail. He said he hopes to go sailing during his time at APG.

Chapel News

Battlefield of the Mind Conference

The Main Post Chapel presents Dr. Joel Freeman, pastor, radio personality, human behavior specialist and author, who will conduct a Battlefield of the Mind Conference, 7 to 10 p.m., June 22 and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 23.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

Musician needed at chapel

The choir/music program of the Gospel service is looking for a keyboard or piano player to play during the noon Sunday service, practice with the choir and participate in other functions to support the ministry.

For more information, contact Chaplain (Capt.) Robert

Randall Thomas, 410-278-3976.

Register for Vacation Bible School

The APG Main Post Chapel Vacation Bible School will be held 6 to 8:45 p.m., June 25 through 29, for preschoolers ages 5 to grade 6.

This year’s theme is “Holy Land Adventure: Galilee

by the Sea – Catch Jesus in Action.”

Nursery care will be provided for volunteers.

Registration forms for volunteers (adults and teens) are available in the entrance of the Main Post (APG North) and South Post (APG South) chapels. Early registration is requested. For more information, call Gerri Merkel, 410-278-2516 or e-mail gerri.merkel@apg.army.mil.

Community Notes

**FRIDAY
JUNE 15
5TH ANNUAL 7 UP
WORSHIP SERVICE**

Ames United Methodist Church, located on 112 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, will hold its 5th Annual 7 Up Worship Service, 7 p.m. Four dynamic women will speak – the Rev. Lena Dennis, Eastern UMC; the Rev. Laretta Halstead, Upper Chesapeake Hospital; the Rev. Brenda Lewis, Fallston Charge UMC; and minister Eva Taylor, Zion Temple Church. For more information, call 410.838 0161 or e-mail tygjhs@verizon.net.

**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 20
CRAB FEAST
AND BASEBALL
FUNDRAISER**

The Family and Children's Services of Central Maryland will host a crab feast and

baseball fundraiser, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Ripken Stadium, 873 Long Drive. Tickets cost \$65 per person and include all you can eat crabs, corn on the cob, hot dogs and soda. Each person will receive an authentic Aberdeen Ironbirds baseball cap. Proceeds will benefit Family and Children's Services Harford county programs. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Lotte Kinkhart, 410-838-9000, ext. 221 or visit www.fcsmd.org.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 16
WHITE-TAILED DEER
SURVEY**

Harford County seems to be experiencing explosive population growth - and not just with humans. Help to determine if the deer population of Leight Park is a healthy size. Get the scoop on poop and conduct pellet (deer

scat) counts out on the trails to determine how many deer are in this area. This free program will be held 9 a.m. to noon for ages 16 to adult. Registration is required. For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**THE GROCERY STORE
OF THE MARSH**

Explore the cattail marsh by canoe, enjoy cattail treats, and search the high tide marsh to see who else shops at this grocery store. This event will be held 9 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 8 to adult and costs \$10. Registration is required. For more information, to register or for directions to

the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

KING FOR A DAY

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Carlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 located at 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen, will host a Father's Day Program at noon. The theme for the program is "King for a Day." Lunch will be served. Fathers will eat free and other guests will pay \$5. For more information, call 443-866-0533.

**UNDERWATER
EXPLORATIONS**

Come get wet and seine the creek in search of critters. This program will be held 2 to 3:30 p.m. for ages 5, and is free for all ages; ages 8 and under must be accom-

panied by an adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**ST. JAMES A.M.E.
MUSICAL BANQUET**

The Men's Day Committee of St. James A.M.E. Church, located on 617 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will host a Musical Banquet, 3 p.m. Dinner will be served 3 p.m. The Holy Vessels from Baltimore will provide music. Cost of the event is \$25 per person. Proceeds will benefit Men's Day 2007. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-2267.

**MONDAY
JUNE 18
CHARACTER CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Character Cruise, 6:30 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$10 per person and reservations should be made

in advance. Cost includes a 90-minute cruise around the Susquehanna Flats, beverage and snack with a special character from under the sea, made from a sponge. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

**TUESDAY
JUNE 19
CHARACTER CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Character Cruise, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$10 per person and reservations should be made in advance. Cost includes a 90-minute cruise around the Susquehanna Flats, beverage and snack with a special character from under the sea, made from a sponge. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)

Aberdeen Summer Concert series

The town of Aberdeen will hold its annual Summer Concert Series 7 p.m., each Tuesday in Festival Park. Refreshments will be available. In the event of inclement weather, all performances will be held in Aberdeen Middle School's multi-purpose room.

- June 12** - Annapolis Bluegrass Coalition
- June 19** - Bel Air Community Band
- June 26** - Jerry Haines
- July 10** - No Pro Bono, Aberdeen's own Councilman Mike Hiob and partners Mark Boyle and Paul Scott
- July 17** - Just Foolin' Around Band
- July 24** - Don Shappelle
A singer, songwriter from Wilkes-Barre, PA, Don's songs
- July 31** - The 389th Army Jazz Band (AMC's Own)
- Aug. 7** - Chuck Baker Orchestra
- Aug. 14** - Bay Country Gentlemen celebrate their 29th anniversary
- Aug. 21** - The Upper Chesapeake Chorus, Sweet Adelines International

Host families needed

One hundred volunteer host families are needed to "adopt" two players for the 2007 Cal Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen, Aug. 8 to 18. Game dates are Aug. 11 to 18.

Volunteer parents will be required to provide beds for two players, food, housing, transportation and more.

Host Families will receive T-shirts, a Host Family celebration, a gift bag with an activities guide and coupons to support the Host Family's experience.

Players will include the Maryland State Champions, a Harford County representative, teams from eight regions across the United States and six international teams from Japan, Canada,



Australia, Mexico, South Korea and the Dominican Republic.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact Janice Chan of the Ripken Foundation at 410-823-0808, e-mail jchan@ripkenfoundation.org or visit Web site, <http://worldseries.ripkenbaseball.com/>.

Post Shorts

specialist/corporal.

The menu includes buffalo wings with bleu cheese dressing, grilled steak with sautéed mushrooms and onions, broccoli, cheese and rice casserole, barbecue chicken, cheesy bacon burger, chili dogs with cheese and onions, grilled polish sausage, barbecue pork sandwiches, submarine sandwiches (finish your own), baked beans, macaroni and cheese, freedom fries, onion rings, potato bar, baked sweet potato, corn on the cob, southern style collard greens, assorted salad bar, potato salad, cole slaw with creamy dressing, macaroni salad, assorted condiments, hot dinner rolls, assorted breads, corn bread, Army birthday cake, apple pie, big chocolate chip cookies, watermelon and assorted fresh fruit, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green, 410-306-1393/1398.

Education Center conducts in-process briefings

The APG Education Center, located in building 4305, second floor, room 213-B, will conduct a monthly in-process briefing for Soldiers within their first 30 days of assignment to APG. The briefings will take place 8 to 9 a.m. on the last Monday of each month and are designed to inform Soldiers, enlisted and officers, of programs and services available to meet the requirements of their educational goals and plan. The briefing also will provide information

to help establish or recertify the Soldier’s long/short-term education goals and plan.

For more information, call Tressie Stout, 410-306-2042.

Well-Being Council Meeting June 20

The next Well-Being Council meeting will be 9:30 a.m., June 20, at the Post Chapel.

Job vs. Career classes for teens

Army Community Service will hold Job vs. Career Classes for teens, ages 13 through 18, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., at ACS Classroom building 2754. Classes will be held June 20, July 18 and Aug. 15.

Today’s work force offers many challenges and rewards. Teens will learn the benefit of a career over a job. The ACS Employment program and Tina Mike, APGFCU Education director, will help guide teens through the job and career preparation process so they can achieve their own employment success.

Topics include:

- what employers are looking for
- how to apply for a job
- tips on resume writing
- interviewing experience

For more information or to enroll teens in this free class, call Marilyn Howard, ACS Employment Readiness, 410-278-9669

Writing an effective education plan

Army Community Service will hold a free workshop - How to Write an Effective Individual Education Plan at ACS building

2754 Rodman Road conference room. Two workshops will be held 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., June 28 and Sept. 20. All service members, civilians, Family members and retirees are eligible to attend this workshop.

The focus of this workshop includes:

- Essential elements within an IEP
- Laws and regulations surrounding special education
- Advocating a child’s special education services
- Advocating
- Alternative solutions

Parents are encouraged to bring a copy of their child’s most recent IEP to the session. RSVP by June 25.

For more information or to register, call the Exceptional Family Member Program Manager, 410-278-2420.

OSJA Client Services closed July 5


The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Client Services Division, Legal Assistance Office will not have a walk-in service available on Thursday, July 5. Clients should contact the Legal Assistance Office at 410-278-1583 before that date if there are any questions. Walk-in services will resume the following Thursday.

Thrift Shop holds bag sale through August

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Thrift Shop, located in building 2458, is holding a \$2 Bag Sale during regular business hours through August. Sale items are mainly men’s, women’s and children’s clothing.

The Thrift Shop hours of operation are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call 410-272-8572 during business hours.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)



BOSS News

"Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers"

All Soldiers are welcome to attend events. Contact Sgt. Eugenia Richards, 410-278-2709, for more information on BOSS events.

White water rafting/paintball trip

BOSS is going on a trip to the Poconos for white water rafting and Skirmish Paintball July 28 and Aug. 18. The one-day trip costs \$54.95. Price includes all safety equipment for both rafting and paintball. Lunch can either be purchased or brought from home. Transportation will be provided. For serious inquires, a \$15 deposit is required to hold the date and the rest of the payment is due two weeks prior to trip. The deadline for the July trip is July 13 and for the August trip is Aug. 3.

Car wash

BOSS will hold a car wash, noon to 4 p.m., June 20, at the Abingdon Walmart. All Soldiers participating must wear BOSS T-shirts and choice of bottoms as long as it is tasteful.

Community service

The quarterly trip to visit the Armed Forces Retirement Home, Washington, D.C., is Aug. 15. Meet at the APG North Recreation Center at 6:30 a.m. The group will return no later than 5 p.m.



Health benefits adviser assists beneficiaries with TRICARE plans, credit issues at KUSAHC

Story by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

TRICARE beneficiaries who have questions or issues

with benefits can visit the health benefits adviser at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Renee Smith serves as the health benefits adviser, beneficiary counseling assistant coordinator and debt collection assistant officer for the Unified Business Office at KUSAHC.

As a health benefits adviser and beneficiary counseling assistant coordinator, Smith said she can help patients navigate TRICARE and military health system inquiries and concerns and advise them on obtaining care.

She said she gives advice to beneficiaries on which TRICARE plan to use.

“If someone has multiple insurances, I help determine which TRICARE plan will work best with the patient,” she said.

Beneficiaries that are enrolled in an insurance company and visit network health care providers, facilities off of the installation who accept TRICARE can use TRICARE Standard to bill TRICARE for their co-pays, Smith said.

TRICARE Prime involves management of all health

care at KUSAHC and works like a Health Maintenance Organization.

“Prime really is the way to go,” Smith said. “You pay zero dollars out of pocket unless you use a network pharmacy outside of the contract.”

TRICARE Extra allows the beneficiary to choose a provider off of the installation that is still in the TRICARE network, she said.

As a debt collection assistant officer, Smith helps beneficiaries resolve issues with bills that have been sent to a collection agency.

She said one of the most common issues is portability changes.

TRICARE is separated into three healthcare regions: North, South and West. TRICARE North’s system is operated by military health contractor Health Net Federal Services.

“If a Soldier goes to the emergency room while he or she is in the TRICARE South region and has a Permanent Change of Station here to APG, they don’t have to worry about calling the region to pay the bill,” Smith said. “I coordi-

nate with the region to get your collection issue resolved.”

Smith said she has been working with Soldiers for the past 15 or 16 years. She has been working at KUSAHC for the past two.

“It is a pleasure to work with Soldiers,” she said. “My dad retired from the military as a sergeant in the early seventies. My husband is currently serving his twenty-third year and my oldest daughter is on her fourth year in the military. I have a son that is planning to go to the Air Force soon, so serving the military population is what I really enjoy.”

She said that her door is open for beneficiaries from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

She gives briefings Mondays and Tuesdays so beneficiaries can call her at 410-278-1719 if they wish to meet with her on those days.

Beneficiaries can also speak with Smith at KUSAHC’s open house meetings the first Thursday of each month from 5 to 7 p.m. where beneficiaries can speak with KUSAHC and HNFS staff members.

Redesigned TRICARE beneficiary Web site makes getting information easy

Story by
ALEXIS WASHINGTON
DoD Military Health System

The Web will get easier for the 9.1 million TRICARE beneficiaries. Soon they can access TRICARE information tailored for them through the new My Benefits portal on **www.tricare.mil**.

In addition to simplified navigation, beneficiaries will be able to compare plans, get detailed information on services covered by TRICARE, and much more. The improved portal also allows beneficiaries to easily print content, as well as save multiple sections of content into a single document—a personalized TRICARE handbook (or E-book). With just a few clicks, beneficiaries can quickly find all the information they need about their health care benefit.

“It is important for us to meet the needs of our beneficiaries and making sure we communicate with them clearly is a top priority,” said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director, TRICARE Management Activity. “The site redesign saves time and gives beneficiaries up-

to-date information.”

Results of an online survey revealed that visitors to the original **www.tricare.mil** site were overwhelmed by the amount of content and complexity of the TRICARE benefit. Users expressed frustration with surfing through the numerous benefit options and content redundancies.

“Because of the feedback,” Granger said, “we redesigned the site and beneficiaries participated in the process through hands-on testing of the new features.”

Upon entering the My Benefits portal, beneficiaries will answer a few questions about themselves including their military status, where they live and their TRICARE health plan. By answering these three questions, content is tailored to meet their needs. Beneficiaries will no longer have to wade through pages of content to find the information that pertains to them. If beneficiaries aren’t sure about their TRICARE plan, the Plan Wizard—one of the revamped site’s new features—shows them the plans for which they may be eligible.

An online demo of the new portal is available at **www.tricare.mil/overview/**.

Commentary: Men and health

By
DR. DARIUS MYDLARZ
KUSAHC

If you are a man, it seems appropriate to reflect on the state of your health and examine your lifestyle during National Men’s Health Week, which this year runs from June 11 to 17.

Allow me to borrow a useful framework for looking at and managing one’s health and lifestyle from a recent Tricare Health Matters Publication, Issue 3, 2007.



Consider medical check-ups and/or screenings. When was the last time you had one? These periodic health screenings and disease prevention visits are designed to identify medical problems such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes and the like early on, before they cause deleterious effects and in many instances before they become symptomatic.

Such visits are also an excellent opportunity to discuss with your doctor any preventive measures you may take in order to avoid illnesses and disabling conditions later in life. Would it not be a great Father’s Day present for yourself?

What about nutrition? After all, you are what you eat, as they say. Even though this is an obvious overstatement, there is some truth in it.

What you eat today most certainly will have consequences for your future health. In some instances, such as in a person with diabetes, it may have more immediate health-related effects, such as dangerously high or low blood glucose levels.

It is difficult to discuss nutrition without mentioning obesity. The experts have been warning us for years about the alarming increase in obesity among Americans and the forthcoming con-

See MEN’S HEALTH, page 7

Commentary: Taking breaks makes you more productive, energetic

By
KELLY L. FORYS
CHPPM

Have you ever come home after a day of work feeling completely exhausted? Have you ever thought that taking a break at work helped you to be more productive? The good news is that it does.

Taking breaks actually does make you more productive and can provide you with more energy at the end of the day. Taking breaks away from your computer and job tasks can enhance concentration, boost energy, reduce stress and improve mood.

Many of us have been programmed by our Family members, friends, and the western work ethic to believe that “working hard” means “working long hours with no breaks.”

Soldiers and civilians alike often feel guilty for taking breaks and fear that they will be perceived as wasting time.

Not taking breaks has other negative effects. People may turn to caffeine, junk food, sugar, nicotine or drugs to keep going when their bodies are

telling them to stop.

The key to maintaining optimal productivity is to take breaks to prevent negative effects; however, if you have difficulty concentrating, feel your eyes straining, develop a headache or become fidgety, your body and mind are telling you that a break is overdue.

We wear our hard work like a badge of courage on our sleeves. We brag when we work through lunch, stay late at work, forfeit our vacations, and take our laptops and cell phones with us on the rare occasion that we do take a vacation.

We need to get back in touch with our natural patterns of activity and rest. As babies and small children, our bodies were programmed to take breaks, usually in the form of naps, after long hours of playing. Workplace schedules of the past had built-in mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks. As our society has increased the use of advanced technology (e-mail, TiVo, BlackBerries, Bluetooth and cellular phones), we have also increased our ability to be in

touch at all times. The ability to take work everywhere and never miss a phone call has reduced the amount of time that we spend away from work tasks and has decreased the amount of time that we spend relaxing and having fun.

Workday breaks can be as simple as walking to the other end of the office building; standing up from your chair and stretching your arms, neck and shoulders; or chatting with a co-worker in the fresh air. Work breaks can be effective with as little as three minutes away from the job every 90 minutes to two hours.

So pat yourself on the back for the work you do, and take a break.

The top five reasons you should take a break:

1. You give your body a rest from the unnatural postures that develop while sitting at the computer.
2. You develop relationships with your coworkers that can benefit you both personally and professionally.
3. You will be more focused on your work when you return



from a break.

4. You will foster creativity.
5. You will feel better at the end of the day and have energy to do the activities that you enjoy.

Men’s health

From page 6

sequences. Unfortunately, the consequences for some have been realized already in a form of premature heart attacks, osteoarthritis, back problems, high blood pressure, diabetes, and many other weight-related serious health issues.

A nutritionist can expertly assess one’s diet and then tailor it toward healthier choices without sacrificing one’s dietary preferences. It is possible to eat healthy and retain tasty food choices. Let a nutritionist show you how.

Last, but not least, let’s tackle the issue of fitness

and exercise. Yes, they are related. On a more serious note, small increases in your daily activity lead to profound changes in your level of fitness. Where else in life does one get such a good deal?

Being fit pays enormous dividends in increased energy, more favorable outlook on life, more restful sleep, healthier future and much more. Those who are and feel fit are more likely to engage in other healthy activities because now they can ride a bike or go hiking in the Shenandoah Valley without being short of breath.

The most successful formula is to start small and build on it. No one became a marathon

runner overnight. Consider a daily 15-minute walk and taking those stairs at work that you have been avoiding so successfully because of the wonderful elevator right next door. Take one flight of stairs at first and use the elevator for the rest of the trip. When you are ready, make it two flights and before you know it peo-

ple will start calling you the Stairmaster.

Such little steps, no pun intended this time, take little if any additional time and effort. Therefore, the only excuse is not willing to start or, put in other words, not willing to make an important and life-changing investment in one’s health.

APG Soldiers support commemorative event at local elementary school

Students challenge themselves to honor patriot

Story by
JONI PLATT
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

Soldiers of the 20th Support Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosives) served as an Honor Guard and posted the National Color at Forest Hill Elementary School on May 29, as a kick off to the school’s Patriot Program Assembly.

Soldiers participating in the event were Sgt. Vaurice Payton, noncommissioned officer in charge, Staff Sgt. Fernando Preciado, holding the National Color; and weapon guards Sgt. Jacob Johnson and Spc. Torrey White.

The national flag with yellow fringe added is termed the “National Color,” and it is always displayed in the honor position (viewer’s left) with other Army flags or colors.

The assembly was to honor Chief Petty Officer Adam Lawall, a Naval reservist and a 5th grade teacher at the school who is currently serving in Iraq.

Involved in the Patriot Program since its beginnings,



Photo by MASTER SGT. CHRISTIAN DE LA CRUZ
Soldiers from the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) participated in a Patriot Program event at Forest Hill Elementary May 29. From left, Spc. Torrey White, Staff Sgt. Fernando Preciado and Sgts. Jacob Johnson and Vaurice Payton.

Lawall appeared at the assembly by teleconference from Iraq.

This voluntary program is open to students from kindergarten to 5th grade and promotes student demonstration of skills of a responsible citizens and their knowledge of American or Maryland history. Each grade level has

different requirements with each becoming more challenging than the year before.

In a school-wide effort and to honor Lawall’s patriotism and hard work, the students pledged to complete the program and be “patriots” while he was deployed. On April

20, 583 students passed the program and the school

reached 100 percent completion for the first time.

Lawall had challenged the students to complete the requirements and said he was pleased to learn of their hard work and accomplishments.

For more information on the Patriot Program, contact Forest Hill Elementary School, 410-638-4166.

22d Chem Bn

From front page

sergeant major after being nominated by the 20th Support Command Sgt. Maj. Melvin Womack. Rodriguez was selected after competing with 12 other Soldiers nationwide.

“Three things made him stand out: his prior experience as battalion CSM, his prior position as Garrison CSM at Dugway Proving Ground and the fact he’s a Soldiers’ Soldier...he’s dedicated to taking care of Soldiers and their Family members,” Womack said.

Rodriguez is excited about his selection. He had planned

to retire after his assignment with the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) and purchased a home in the local area. His selection to Garrison command sergeant major changed the retirement part of the plan.

“APG is a unique installation, and I predict I will be heavily involved with BRAC [base realignment and closure]. That in itself will be a challenge,” Rodriguez said.

He feels his new assignment will be a step up for him but he will greatly miss the Soldiers, civilians and Family members

of the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE). It took him almost his entire military career to get the assignment.

“This is the best assignment I’ve had since I joined the Army. I worked with the best Soldiers and civilians in my military career,” he said. “The 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) is a unique organization in the Chemical Corps. There are only two units of its kind in the whole Army--the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) at APG and the 110th Chemical Battalion (TE) at Fort Lewis,” he added.

Rodriguez will soon be attending the Garrison Command Sergeant Major two-week course but doesn’t know when his transition as Garrison command sergeant major will happen.

“My goal is to make APG a ‘top’ installation in the Army,” Rodriguez said. “APG is already a great post, and I just want to continue in that effort to make it the best.”

Correction

In the Texas Hold ‘Em article that appeared in the May 24, 2007 edition of the *APG News*, finalist James Cole of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center was mistakenly identified as Tim Hall. The *APG News* regrets the error.



The U.S. Army Materiel Systems and Analysis Activity's Josh Weaver, second from left, dribbles past the 22d Chemical Battalion's Tim Herd, while Richard Heine, far right, prepares to block an opponent behind him.

22d Chemical Battalion wins civilian league basketball championship 40-38 against AMSAA

Story and photo by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

The 22d Chemical Battalion of the 20th Support Command Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosives persevered and won 40-38 against the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity during the civilian basketball championship at the Athletic Center May 31.

The 22d Chemical Battalion's basketball team name is 2220 CBRNE and AMSAA's team name is AMSAA #2.

In the regular season, 2220 CBRNE was undefeated after playing six games.

Led by coaches Bryheem Garner, 2220 CBRNE, former CBRNE employee Tim Herd, and Greg Ramsey, AMSAA #2, the teams' scores remained close throughout the game.

The high scorers for the game were Nate Herbert with 12 points for AMSAA #2 and Romero Johnson with 14 for 2220 CBRNE.

This is the second championship that 2220 has won in the past two years.

Garner expressed pride for the team's unity during the game.

"Overall the win was a team effort," Garner

said. "Everyone kept their heads in the game and kept their composure when the score was tight."

He said when the players were on the bench, they still provided "moral support" and encouraged their teammates.

Garner said that their team had an advantage against AMSAA because the team is physically fit and they play regularly.

He thanked Anthony Vaughters who helped coach throughout the season and couldn't see the team's victory because he just moved to Texas.

Herd added that it felt great to overcome busy schedules and win the championship.

"We had a poor showing in the winner's league and had a lot of players out on deployments and travel duty," he said. "It felt good to come back together and win another championship."

He thanked Charles Heinsohn, Morale, Welfare and Recreation program specialist, who manages the sports program, for conducting the league.

"It's hard to start a league by yourself," Herd said. "This league is all about having fun for the benefit of the Soldiers and civilians who work at Aberdeen Proving Ground."

SCHOOL LIAISON

Important notices for parents

2007 school year-end revised

Harford County Public Schools has revised the academic calendar for the 2006-2007 school year to state that the last day of school for students and teachers is now Friday, June 15, which is also a three-hour early dismissal day.

Parent's reminder about student medication

Parents are reminded to pick up all students' unused medication by the last day of school, Friday, June 15.

The office is not allowed to store medication over the summer, so all medications remaining after June 15 must be destroyed.

This is also a reminder that if children will need to take any medication at school for the upcoming school year, a new doctor's note and parental permission form dated for the 2007-2008 school year will be

necessary. The paperwork from this year will be outdated. As always, the medication

must be in a labeled prescription container and must be brought to school by an adult.



MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Beat the summer heat with 'Links to Lanes'

Nine holes of golf, two games of bowling and a Bowling Center meal ticket costs \$20 per player during July and August. Participation in APG North and South must be completed within the same week. The golf portion may be played Monday through Friday after 4:30 p.m. The bowling portion may be completed anytime the lanes are available.

For more information, call 410-278-9452/4041.

Do-it-yourself New York City tours

MWR has scheduled several trips to New York City – eight hours for sightseeing, shopping, seeing a Broadway matinee, venturing into China Town and more.

Trips will take place June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20 or Nov. 17. Cost of the trip is \$40 per person.

The bus will depart 8:25 a.m. and will return 10:30 p.m. Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or to register, call or visit MWR Leisure Travel Services, APG North Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil.

APG holds Talent Show

A Talent Show will be held June 23, at the APG North Recreation Center, 6:30 p.m.; doors open 6 p.m. The event is open to the public.

Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military, \$7 for non-military.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR registration, APG North, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or APG South, Hoyle Gymnasium, building E4210, 410-436-3375/7134.

New York City Liberty Tour

On July 7 cruise aboard the famous Circle Line cruise

ship down Manhattan harbor to the Statue of Liberty for the best view in the city. Following the cruise, enjoy lunch on the coach touring famous and not-so-famous New York sights narrated by a professional and friendly step on guide. Then explore and shop in midtown Manhattan. Shop for souvenirs, browse at Macy's or stroll Times Square.

Cost of the trip is \$90 per person and includes roundtrip transportation, cruise and lunch.

Deadline for registration is June 22.

The bus will depart 7:20 a.m. and return 9:30 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR registration, APG North, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or Hoyle Gymnasium, APG South, building E4210, 410-436-3375/7134.

See the Wiggles

See Sam, Murray, Jeff and Anthony in "Racing to the Rainbow," 3 p.m., Aug. 10, at the Baltimore 1st Mariner Arena. Tickets for \$29.75 are located in 200 level.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, APG Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Aberdeen Ironbirds tickets

Tickets are available for the following Aberdeen Ironbirds games:

- Williamsport Crosscutters, 7:05 p.m., July 11,
- Staten Island Yankees (Military Appreciation Night), 7:05 p.m., Aug. 16,
- Oneonta Tigers, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 6

Tickets cost \$13.50 per person and include a complimentary Ironbirds hat.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Services at APG North Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil or visit Web site www.apgmwr.com.

MWR begins daily bus trips to Atlantic City

Roll the bones on daily trips to Atlantic City. MWR

Leisure Travel Services offers daily bus service to Trump Taj Mahal Casino and Bally's Casino. Cost of the trip to Trump Taj Mahal is \$28 per person with \$22 back in cash and a \$5 buffet coupon. Cost of the trip to Tropicana Casino is \$22 with \$22 back in cash. Only for ages 21 and over.

The bus will leave Vitali's Restaurant, Best Western in Edgewood at 9 a.m. and return at 9 p.m.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services at Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

MWR has Washington 2007 Kings Dominion season passes

The Italian Job Turbo Coaster, White Water Canyon, Rugrats Toonpike and more await visitors to Kings Dominion. Season passes for adults cost \$68 and season passes for juniors and seniors cost \$50. Purchase season passes by June 29. Open to all Department of Defense employees.

For more information or to purchase passes, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, APG North Recreation Center, build-

ing 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Disney High School Musical on ice

Tickets are available for Disney High School Musical: The Ice Tour, Nov. 2 through 4, at the 1st Mariner Arena, Baltimore.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Orioles Baseball tickets available at MWR Leisure Travel Services

All game seats are located in Section 40 Row WW seats 11 and 12, Row XX seats 11 and 12. Tickets cost \$49 each.

Call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

- Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Wednesday, July 25, 7:05 p.m.
- Boston Red Sox, Friday, Aug. 10, 7:05 p.m.
- Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Thursday, Aug. 30, 7:05 p.m.
- Boston Red Sox, Thursday, Sept. 6, 7:05 p.m.
- Boston Red Sox, Friday, Sept. 7, 7:05 p.m.
- New York Yankees, Friday, Sept. 28, 7:05 p.m.

SCHOOL LIAISON

S2S ambassadors attend West Point Leadership Academy

APG School Liaison

Two Aberdeen High School students serving as Student 2 Student ambassadors attended the Leadership Conference at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in April.

Senior Bret Borden and junior Coleman Tull made the trip as recipients of the Military Child Education Coalition's Frances J. Hesselbein Scholarship.

An aspiring architect, Borden called the visit "life changing."

"We got to tour the campus and saw the Gothic-style buildings as well as the newer facilities," he said.

He recalled interesting sessions during the conference in which the speakers shared their insights about leadership and then "picked our brains and made us think."

Borden said he looks forward to the future and he expects to enjoy even more experiences during a People to People Tour of Italy, France and London over the summer.

Borden is the son of retired Sgt. 1st Class Bret Borden, formerly of the APG South

Technical Escort Unit.

Tull is the son of Capt. Gerald Habiger of the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment. He said the leadership conference required them to work on projects focused on leadership and decision making. He said he learned that "your decisions should not just benefit your followers, but everyone," and he reasons that when you don't consider everyone's needs, "you promote segregation."

Tull said that he learned much and that he hopes to implement some changes in Aberdeen High's S2S Program, which he will assist in leading as a senior in the 2007-2008 school year.

For example, in addition to serving students new to Harford County, Tull said he wants S2S, "to help all students grow, even kids that have lived in Aberdeen all their lives, to get involved and meet the challenges in life."

For more information on Aberdeen High School's S2S program visit Web site, <http://www.militarychild.org/S2S.asp>, or contact Eileen Campbell, APG School Liaison, 410 278-2857.

For more information on any APG school related information, contact Eileen Campbell, 410-278-2857 or eileen.campbell@apg.army.mil.

Sports

Racquetball Tournament

A Start of Summer Racquetball Tournament will be held 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., June 23, at the Athletic Center, building 3300. The tournament is limited to ages 18 and over. There will be a round robin tournament with men's and women's divisions for players in A-advanced, B-intermediate, C-beginners and Open-not sure categories. Cost of entry is \$5 for active duty and \$10 for all others. Trophies

will be awarded to the top three in each division (determined by win or loss percentage). Military personnel with training in the morning should contact the tournament director prior to the registration deadline date for special scheduling.

Registration deadline is June 21.

For more information or to register, call MWR Leisure Travel, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, e-mail

mwr-registration@apg.army.mil, or visit www.apgmwr.com.

Registering for Challenger Soccer Camp

Challenger Sports' British soccer camps are the largest camps in the U.S. The camp includes individual skill development, professional British coaching staff, programs for all levels, daily world cup style tournament, free soccer ball, free T-shirt and a bonus British soccer Jersey if youths register 45 days before the camp.

Soccer Camp is scheduled for July 23 through 27.

Camp for ages 4 and 5 will be held 8:30 to 10 a.m., and costs \$72 per child; ages 6 through 14 will be held 10:10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and costs \$102 per child. Camp will be held at the Youth soccer field (APG North) on Bayside Drive.

For registration, go to www.challengersports.com and click on find a camp, click on type of camp (British Soccer camps) type in the APG zip code (21005) and click on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

For more information, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

Upcoming golf events

Senior Golf Special

Ruggles Golf Course is offering a Senior Golf Special to golfers age 55 or older: play Monday through Thursday until 2:30 p.m. for \$33. This special may not be used with any other discounts. Tee time registration is recommended.

For more information, call 410-278-4794 or e-mail david.correll@us.army.mil.

Summer Scramble

Ruggles Golf Course will hold a Summer Scramble open to all golfers, July 21 with an 8 a.m. start. Entry fee costs \$30 for annual patrons, \$45 for authorized patrons with a value card, and \$55 for guests and includes range balls, cart, hot dog with soda on turn, appetizers with beverages and prizes.

For more information or to register, call 410-278-4794, or visit the Pro Shop at Ruggles.



90th Anniversary Celebration Calendar of Events

(All dates are subject to change and weather conditions.)

June

- TBA

July

- 26, Army Community Service Birthday Picnic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

August

- TBA

September

- 29, Army Concert Tour

October

- TBA

November

- 10, APG 90th Anniversary Gala, Ripken Stadium, 7 to 11 p.m., for more information, call 410-278-1150

- 15, Military Family Movie, ACS, 410-278-4372, 6 to 9 p.m.

December

- 5, ACS Christmas Party/Tree Lighting Ceremony, 410-278-4372, 6 to 9 p.m.

(Editor's note: This calendar will be updated as necessary. New or changed items will appear in italic bold print.)

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials Building 2342

Week of June 11

Special #1: Chicken filet salad, chicken filet served on bed of lettuce, tomato, pickle on the side, onions, green peppers, cucumbers, cheese, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$5.25.

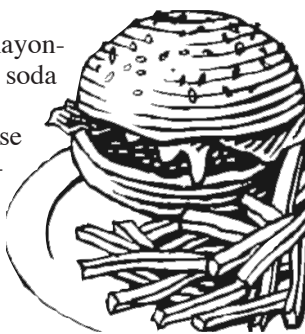
Special #2: Double cheeseburger with bacon, choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onions, French fries, one cookie and soda for \$6.95.

Week of June 18

Special #1: Turkey club sub with bacon and cheese, choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$5.95.

Special #2: Chicken filet club sandwich with bacon and cheese served on a hamburger bun with choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$6.85.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



Army Entertainment and
Aberdeen Proving Ground MWR
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Family readiness focus of MDNG

Story and photos by
MAJ KRISTINE HENRY
MDNG

The Maryland National Guard offers several Family programs to assist service members and Family members.

The mission of the Family Readiness Program is to establish ongoing communication, involvement, support and recognition between Maryland Guard Families and the MDNG in a partnership that promotes the best of both.

“We pride ourselves on the commitment we have to the Families,” said Army 2nd Lt. Jennifer Hahn, the State Family Program director.

The FRP handles questions and concerns from any member of the Guard Family or any other military service member. The teams are trained and equipped specifically to deal with health, financial and legal issues, with a particular focus on Families of deployed service members.

“We will do everything we can to resolve issues that arise. If we are unable, we will, at a minimum point them in the right direction and connect people with the appropriate resources,” Hahn said.

In addition, the FRP includes a very extensive youth program.

The MDNG runs five Family Assistance Centers located regionally across Maryland. They are



Family members and friends say goodbye to the Soldiers of Company B, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment at the Maryland National Guard's Weide Army Airfield on Edgewood May 29. The Guard unit left for Fort Carson, Colo., enroute to Afghanistan.



spread across the state to give full coverage in Baltimore, Towson, Annapolis, Hagerstown and Essex. Individual units also run Family Readiness Groups throughout the state.

The Maryland National Guard FRP will be

hosting several upcoming events. Homefront Challenge, a youth camp, will take place June 24 to 29 at Camp Fretterd in Reisterstown, with closing ceremonies on June 29 that will include several high ranking speakers. On July 14, Mil-

itary Youth Appreciation Day will take place at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore.

For additional information on the FRPs, visit www.Mdngfamilysupport.com or call 410-576-6019 or 1-877-399-6221.

Family Child Care hosts Stand for Children Day

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

From strawberry mice with lico-rice tails to Sparky the Firedog, the day was filled with fun activities for all involved during the Family Child Care Stand for Children Day at Capa Field May 23.

Hosted by FCC director Aphrodite Corsi, Beverly Hartgrove, training and curriculum specialist and Alexia Baker, program associate, the event offered FCC providers a day outside, enjoying the weather and the events set up for their youngsters.

Hartgrove said it was her final project before she retires in August.

“This is our ninth annual event,” Hartgrove said. “I would like to thank our staff, the Sports Leaders, Sparky the Fire Dog, the APG Fire Department and the ‘Bug Guy’ for the fun activities.”

Along with arts and crafts projects, the children, who included toddlers to pre-schoolers, played games and “ooh’ed” and “ahh-ed” over dozens of creepy-crawly bugs in an entomology display provided by Kevin Harkins, ‘The Bug Guy’ from the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine’s Pesticide Monitoring Team.

Harkins brought glass cases filled with bugs, moths and butterflies and spent the day answering questions about the colorful creatures.

He said the displays are geared toward teaching how insects live and their importance.

“This is just to give you an idea of how diverse insects are and what role they play for us,” he said.

The children got a physical fitness workout as well. Bill Kegley, director of Youth Sports at the APG North Youth Center and his assistant Eric Henderson put on a mini soccer clinic, teaching the youngsters how to kick, run with the ball and other techniques after leading them through warm-up exercises.

Overall, the youngsters seemed to have a good time and their providers expressed their thanks.

“They’ve always been very helpful,” said FCC provider Tiphane



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Family Child Care provider Marissa Vargas, right, helps Emily Roybal, 2, make a strawberry mouse during Stand for Children Day activities at Capa Field May 23.

Simpson. The wife of Staff Sgt. Mark Simpson, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, she praised Hartgrove as one of the reasons she was able to achieve an Early Childhood Education degree from Harford Community College which she receives in August.

“She’s been priceless,” Simpson said. “It’s [going to] be a great loss when she retires.”

Elvia Pomerat, an off-post provider for the past three years, said that confidence in the FCC staff makes her job easier.

“We are like a big Family,” she said. “If you need anything all you have to do is call them and they are there for you.”

FCC is actively looking for providers both on and off post. The current need is for hourly homes, infant and school-age care. Off-post providers who are state licensed and are available to care for children of APG employees are also needed.

For information, call 410-278-7477/ 7140/9832.



Photo by BEVERLY HARTGROVE, FCC
Rebecca Pomerat, front, and Nadia Taylor create original works of art on sun visors during arts and crafts activities.

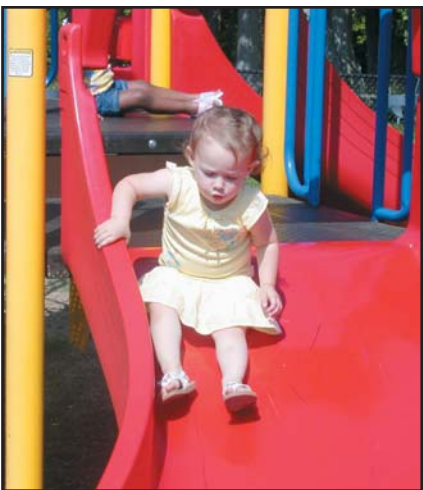


Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Little Ashley Flores is a bright spot on the sliding board of the Capa Field jungle gym.



Photos by BEVERLY HARTGROVE, FCC
Kevin Harkins, an entomologist with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, talks bugs with from left, Derek Gabel, Matthew Gabel and Rebecca Grove.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Eric Henderson, left, APG youth sports coach, leads children in stretching exercises.

Award

From front page

include reviewing construction plans for Base Realignment and Closure to ensure the new buildings will comply with APG fire codes. The staff has performed thousands of inspections throughout the installation including the Child Development Centers and youth centers.

APG Fire and Emergency Services has also helped organize and hosted Community Awareness Day last fall, an event where firefighters conducted bedroom and kitchen fire demonstrations and a youth firefighter obstacle course.

“We had one thousand people come to Community Awareness Day,” Farrington said. “It really helped to get the word of fire prevention out. The more people we can get to, the better.”

In addition, the staff organized and hosted several holiday block parties to inform Families about kitchen and holiday decoration safety. The event also featured an appearance by APG Fire Department’s mascot Sparky the Fire Dog.



Photo by ANDRÉ FOURNIER

Fire protection inspectors Doug Farrington and Chris Starling talk to Child Development Center children about fire equipment during a fire station tour June 7. The goal of the presentation is to show the children the men behind the gear so they are not afraid of firefighters during a rescue.

The staff uses handheld inspection devices to make fire inspecting more efficient and a reusable digital fire extinguisher training device to make training more efficient, saving materials and course preparation time. These tasks are just a few of the numerous efforts the department has completed in fire prevention.

Members of the Fire Prevention Division said they feel honored to

win the award, and that it is a testament of their hard work.

“It makes me feel proud,” Stanford said. “We work hard day in and day out. A lot of work we do people don’t see unless there’s a fire. This award shows our hard work.”

Stanford said that the whole staff of Fire and Emergency Services played a part in winning the award including firefighters and

paramedics who have helped with various events.

“Winning the award shows our dedicated support prevails,” Fournier added. “We have had to come up with new ideas to promote fire safety because it is hard to cast onto people. We have a great group of guys to come up with these new creative ideas. If we can save just one life, then our efforts are all worthwhile.”

Since the department has won the DA award, its prevention program has been entered in the Department of the Defense level. The depart-

ment will find out if they have won the DoD award in August at the DOD Fire and Emergency Services Training Conference in Atlanta, Ga.

The department is continuing its mission to spread the word of fire prevention.

“This July the department will provide a fire prevention trailer to APG that will “educate more children and adults on home safety and storms,” Farrington said.

The trailer will also show how a fire alarm system is activated, he said.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
APG firefighters extinguish an automobile fire as part of a demonstration during the Oct. 15, 2005, Community Awareness Day.

APG police join local law enforcement agencies in Special Olympics torch run

Story and photo by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

Members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground police teamed up with local law enforcement agencies during an annual Special Olympics Torch Run June 5 that began in Havre de Grace and ended at the Baltimore line in Joppa.

Detective “Big Mike” Farlow, community policing/crime prevention specialist, organized the Harford County part of the relay with Sgt. Ginney Courtney from the Harford County Sheriff’s Office and other local police representatives.

APG runners included Jeremy Rondone and Robert Rowlett, members of the Special Reaction Team, and Officer Larry Shepard from the APG South police department.

The run began with Harford County Police Academy cadets, deputies from the Harford County Sheriff’s Office and state police at North Park in Havre de Grace. Torch Run organizers from the state’s Special Olympics headquarters in Lithicum, Md., and the Harford County Sheriff Jesse Bane were present to cheer on the runners.

The APG runners met up with the participants along Route 40 for the 2.4 mile stretch to Aberdeen where they met up with officers from the Aberdeen Police Department. Due to prior obligations, the APG police were unable to run the entire 18-mile leg across Harford County this year.

In addition to the law enforcement agencies, Special Olympics athlete Melvin Schultz from Aberdeen participated in the event.

A bus followed the runners to give them the opportunity to take a rest and provided them with bottled water.

Members of law enforcement controlled traffic by riding along with the procession on a motorcycle and in a patrol car.

This year was not the first time the APG runners have been involved in the event.

Shepard said he has participated in the torch run before when he was a member of the military police.

He said Special Olympics is a great organization because it gives children with disabilities a chance to compete.

“The torch run is a great opportunity to help out Special Olympics and an opportunity for the law enforcement community to have some fun,”



Members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground police run along Route 40 with local law enforcement agencies during the Maryland Special Olympics Torch Run June 5.

added Rowlett, who said he has participated in the event before in Washington, D.C.

Farlow said this year’s run went “really well.”

“It was very well planned and made it possible for the officers to raise awareness for Special Olympics as guardians of the Flame of Hope,” he said. “It also provided the opportunity for young men and women just starting out in law enforcement to see what community policing is all about by doing something so positive for the community on such a grand scale. The officers from APG deem it an honor to be involved each year with such a great program.”

He thanked all of the officers who participated in the event and those who bought a T-shirt or hat. He also thanked Officer Steve McClain who has been the top seller of the hats and shirts for the past two years and Officer Billy Thompson for his support through his affiliation with the Fraternal Order of Police.

Farlow said Lt. John Newnan from the Howard County Police Department and direc-

tor of the torch run, has been involved in the event for many years.

Newnan said it was great to return to Havre de Grace, where he started his career 29 years ago.

Law enforcement representatives participate in torch runs all over the world to support Special Olympics, he said.

He thanked the members of the law enforcement agencies and said, “Without your help, the Special Olympics wouldn’t be what it is today.”

The Maryland Special Olympics Maryland Torch Run began in 1986 and benefits more than 10,000 athletes, said Betsy Jiron, SOMD Torch Run liaison.

The last leg of the Maryland torch run was to Towson University June 8 where the 2007 SOMD Summer Games will begin. Officers from across the state will escort Special Olympics athletes into the university’s stadium.

If anyone would like to help raise awareness for Special Olympics athletes contact Farlow 410-278-3609, or visit the SOMD Web site, <http://www.somd.org>.



Photo by TONY FINLAY, MEDICAL MEDIA PRODUCTION SERVICE, PERRY POINT VA MEDICAL CENTER
A Native American dancer joins the Grand Entry, a ceremony honoring veterans from all branches of service and from all wars and conflicts during the Native American Festival held at the Perry Point VA Medical Center June 2 and 3. Native Americans from many states, including Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Delaware, represented their tribal affiliations.

Perry Point VA Medical Center hosts 8th Annual Native American Festival

Story by
MARGARET HORNBERGER
Perry Point Veterans Affairs Medical Center

A two-day Native American Festival was held June 2 and 3 at the Perry Point Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The event was sponsored by the medical center’s Equal Employment Opportunity Native American Special Emphasis Program Committee.

Since its inception in 2000, the highlight of the Festival has been the Grand Entry, which is a ceremony that honors veterans from all branches of service and from all wars and conflicts. Throughout the course of the two-day event, more than 100 veterans and their Family members were honored during the Grand Entry ceremony with Native American songs and dancing.

More than 900 community members attended this year’s festival to sample Native American jewelry, craft items, clothing and traditional food. Attendees were also treated to several Native American flute demonstrations.